

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1155

Introduced by Assembly Member Liu

February 21, 2003

An act to add Article 10 (commencing with Section 100580) to Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 101 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1155, as introduced, Liu. State Department of Health Services.

Existing law establishes the State Department of Health Services and specifies various duties of the department, including, but not limited to, the administration of the Medi-Cal program, pursuant to which medical benefits are provided to public assistance recipients and certain other low-income persons.

Under existing law, hearing aids, durable medical equipment, and medical supplies are covered benefits under the Medi-Cal program, subject to utilization controls.

Existing law requires the department to establish a list of maximum allowable product costs (MAPCS) for medical supplies for purposes of the Medi-Cal program.

Under existing law, the department may enter into exclusive or nonexclusive contracts on a bid or negotiated basis with manufacturers, distributors, dispensers, or suppliers of appliances, durable medical equipment, medical supplies, and other product-type health care services for the purpose of obtaining the most favorable prices to the state and to assure adequate quality of the product or service, with certain exceptions.

This bill would require the department to develop and maintain functional equivalence and price comparison tables for use in comparing prices and functionalities of similar items of durable medical equipment, medical supplies, and hearing aids for which a maximum cost has not been determined for purposes of comparing prices in the purchase of those items for state programs, including, but not limited to, the Medi-Cal program.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 10 (commencing with Section 100580)
2 is added to Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 101 of the Health and
3 Safety Code, to read:

4
5 Article 10. Functional Equivalency and Price Comparison
6 Tables
7

8 100580. The department shall develop and maintain
9 functional equivalence and price comparison tables for use in
10 comparing prices and functionalities of similar items of durable
11 medical equipment, medical supplies, and hearing aids for which
12 a maximum cost has not been determined for purposes of
13 comparing prices in the purchase of those items for, state programs
14 including, but not limited to, the Medi-Cal program.

